

Commercial Aviation

around in the Westland Wessex quite a bit lately. It is supposed that he will be instructing in the Imperial Airways preparatory school, in which there are now some 40 or 50 "boys."

Somebody who has recently gone gay to the extent of seeing Mr. H. G. Wells' film and also the new Imperial

flying boats at Rochester was standing on the tarmac recently when quite a number of assorted British biplanes were on view. Rather unkindly, considering the stout work many of these types have done, he murmured, "Shape of things to go," and turned aside to have a look at a Swissair Douglas.

A. VIATOR.

The Hong Kong Service

A WEEKLY air mail service to Hong Kong started on March 14, the latest time of posting being 10.45 a.m. on Saturday in London. The first mails will be due to reach Hong Kong on March 24 and each return service will leave on Friday and will be due to reach London on Monday ten days later.

"Seeing the "Queen Mary"

NORTHERN and Scottish Airways have made arrangements to run their Renfrew, Skye and South Uist service on Monday, March 23, and Wednesday, March 25, instead of on the Tuesday and Thursday as scheduled, in order that visitors from the islands may have a chance of coming over to see the *Queen Mary* on its way down the Clyde on March 24.

After Three Years

HAVING completed its thirtieth crossing of the South Atlantic, the Bleriot four-engined flying boat *Santos Dumont* has been taken by Mermoz to the Etang de Berre for a complete overhaul. This Atlantic veteran made its first flight at Caudebec-en-Caux in June, 1933, and first crossed the South Atlantic from Dakar to Natal on November 27, 1934.

Guernsey's Aerodrome

A MEETING of owners of the land on which it is proposed to establish Guernsey's official aerodrome was called last week to confer with the Crown Officers and to hear the terms upon which the latter wish to purchase their property.

The proprietors, most of whom are farmers, although one is a director of the existing privately owned local aerodrome, unanimously refused the offer made to them, and it is expected that the matter will be taken before an arbitration committee, although the States of Guernsey have the power to expropriate the land if no more amicable settlement is attained.

Civil Inspection

THE majority of people will be surprised to know that the Joint Aviation Advisory Committee of Lloyd's Register and the British Corporation Register continue to be responsible to the Air Ministry for the inspection of the majority of civil aircraft.

As Mr. M. E. Denny, C.B.E., remarked at the annual meeting of the B.C.R. last week, both societies informed the Ministry in June, 1935, that they could not continue the work under the autonomous governing body proposed by the Gorell Committee. At the time the Ministry had not organised a new body and had no option but to ask the societies to carry on. "It would be difficult," said Mr. Denny, "to predict how long this state of affairs will continue, but we anticipate being in the business for at least the remainder of the present year."

Misr Airwork's Year

DURING 1935 as many as 6,990 passengers were carried on Misr Airwork's various services, in addition to 21,830 kg. of freight. Altogether, 419,467 miles were flown on regular services.

Preparedness

BIRKETT Air Service and Air Commerce both have aeroplanes stationed in the Rhineland on Press duty. British-American Air Services have already booked sixteen passengers on their special services to the Grand National on March 27.

Plymouth-Jersey

ON Friday, April 3, Jersey Airways are starting their expected service between Plymouth and Jersey, once each way, to run twice weekly on Tuesdays and Fridays. The Heston to Jersey services will be increased to twice daily for the Easter holiday, April 9-14. They will then revert to once daily until May 29, when twice daily services, commencing with the Whitsun holiday, will re-open and be maintained until the end of September.

Educating the Ratepayers

AFTER a lecture on air transport developments delivered by Capt. E. I. Short before the Eastbourne ratepayers' association not a single member of the audience spoke against the provision for reserving an aerodrome site. Some four hundred people were present, and there had previously been considerable antagonism concerning the project.

In the course of his lecture, Capt. Short remarked that nearly 75 per cent. of the aerodromes, both here and abroad, had been provided by the local authorities. A number of *Flight* photographs of machines and airports were shown on the screen.

Decoys

COMMERCIAL AIR HIRE AND AIR DISPATCH are participating in the Army co-operation with the 1st Division of the R.A. during the present manoeuvres. The machines used are Airspeed Envoys and Monospars, which are required to fly over the London area both day and night. When the pilots have reached the specified height searchlight crews endeavour to spot them. Four machines are in the air at once, and the Government contract is expected to continue until the month of June. Flt. Lt. Eric Noddings, who, while in the R.A.F. did exceptionally fine work with the Meteorological Flight at Duxford, is in charge.

Two new pilots—Mr. Roland Falk and Mr. F. J. Birmingham—have been engaged and Air Dispatch have announced that their summer service to Le Touquet will commence on April 10. Outward bound machines will leave on Fridays and Saturdays, returning on Sundays and Mondays. The Inner Circle Air Line will also re-open next month.



SALVAGE: This Junkers W.34, owned by Canadian Airways, fell through the ice while taxiing near Port Chipewyan and was saved from complete immersion only by the low wing structure. Twelve days were taken in the work of salvage, but comparatively little damage was done.